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REPLY

To: Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

PCT/JP2004/005233

2. Applicant

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Country of nationality: JAPAN

Country of residence: JAPAN



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TOKYO 102-0094, JAPAN.

4. Date of Notification: 20.07.04

5. Subject Matter of Reply: as per attached

6. List of Attached Document:

(1) Response to Written Opinion of the International  
Searching Authority: 1 page

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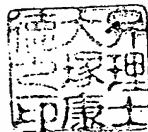
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Authority

**JP2002-244929**

This reference discloses that when roaming between wireless networks is detected, the demand signal, which specifically calculates answerback from all output units that exist all over a wireless network is taken out, and when an output unit in the wireless network is detected by the response of demand signal, connection to the output unit is performed.

**JP2003-091467**

This reference discloses scanning Service Set Identification (SSID) to detect a wireless network, and joining in the detected wireless network.

**JP2003-085548**

This reference discloses transmitting a signal for requiring image printing to a network, transmitting a printing command to a printing device that answered early most, and printing an image.

The above references fail to disclose inquiring of other information processing apparatuses in a joined wireless network whether the other information processing apparatuses have a predetermined function, and joining in another wireless network in accordance with a response of the inquiry, as recited in the claimed invention.